

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04795 251751Z

63

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 SWF-02 AGR-20 COME-00

TRSE-00 OIC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 DRC-01 /224 W

----- 121226

R 251545Z JUL 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7373

INFO USMISSION USUN NY

UNCLAS GENEVA 4795

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS/ ECOSOC, EGEN, UN

SUBJ: ECOSOC: PLENARY SESSION--ITEM 9-WORLD

FOOD CONFERENCE

REF: GENEVA'S 4643.

1. US STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REFTEL IS AS FOLLOWS:

MR. PRESIDENT:

MY DELEGATION TAKES THE FLOOR TO DISCUSS THE FORTH-
COMING WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE WITH TWO THOUGHTS.

FIRST, MR. PRESIDENT, SINCE THE PROPOSAL WAS MADE
AT THE 28TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CONVENE A WORLD FOOD
CONFERENCE, THE CONSIDERATIONS THAT LED TO THAT PROPOSAL
ARE EVERY BIT AS COGENT TODAY

THE MAIN CONCLUSIONS OF THE PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT
OF THE WORLD FOOD SITUATION, PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY
GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE TO THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
AT ITS SECOND SESSION, ARE NOTED IN DOCUMENT E/5522,

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GENEVA 04795 251751Z

WHICH WE HAVE BEFORE US TODAY. THESE CONCLUSIONS ARE

PRELIMINARY IN NATURE BUT WILL BE REVISED FOR THE THIRD MEETING OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE, TO REFLECT MORE RECENT DATA AND THE SEVERAL COMMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE SECOND MEETING OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE.

THE SUMMARY OF THESE CONCLUSIONS, AS STATED IN DOCUMENT E/5533, ARE AS FOLLOWS:

"(A) THAT THE SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM ASPECTS OF THE WORLD FOOD PROBLEM WERE CLOSELY INTERRELATED AND THAT THE LONGER TERM IMBALANCE BETWEEN DEMAND AND SUPPLY IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WAS BECOMING MORE SERIOUS; (B) THAT ABOUT 20 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL POPULATION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WAS SUFFERING FROM INADEQUATE NUTRITION; (C) THAT THE CEREAL GAP IN DEFICIT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES COULD RISE TO 85 MILLION TONS BY 1985 IF RECENT TRENDS IN THE DEMAND FOR AND THE SUPPLY OF FOOD WERE TO CONTINUE; AND (D) THAT THE PROBLEM WAS NOT ONLY ONE OF MORE PRODUCTION, BUT ALSO ONE OF BETTER DISTRIBUTION."

NO ONE CAN DENY THAT THESE ARE SOBERING CONCLUSIONS. IT IS CLEAR FROM THEM THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAS A SERIOUS PROBLEM ON ITS HANDS, FOR IT IS DOUBTFUL WHETHER THE FINAL PROGNOSIS WILL RESULT IN A MORE OPTIMISTIC ASSESSMENT. UNLESS THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY COMES TO GRIPS WITH THIS PROBLEM IN A REALISTIC WAY, THERE MAY BE NO ALTERNATIVE TO MASSIVE STARVATION AND DISAPPOINTMENT IN OUR HOPES FOR A MORE JUST AND EQUITABLE WORLD.

IN MY OPENING REMARKS, MR. PRESIDENT, I MENTIONED THAT THE UNITED STATES TAKES THE FLOOR ON THIS SUBJECT WITH TWO THOUGHTS. ONE THOUGHT IS SIMPLY A REFLECTION OF THE FEELING, IN THE FACE OF THESE CONCLUSIONS, THAT THE

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 GENEVA 04795 251751Z

PROPOSAL TO CONVENE A WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE MAY HAVE COME TOO LATE AND CERTAINLY DID NOT COME TOO SOON.

OUR SECOND THOUGHT IS RELATED TO THE WORK DONE SO FAR IN THE TWO PREPARATORY SESSIONS ALREADY HELD. MY DELEGATION IS GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH THE WORK ACCOMPLISHED IN THESE SESSIONS TO DATE; AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL PROGRESS ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES AT THE THIRD SESSION

OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE.

WE ARE PARTICULARLY SATISFIED THAT THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE IN ITS WISDOM STRESSED THE NEED FOR AN EFFECTIVE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OF ACTION TO TACKLE THE GRAVE PROBLEMS THAT COULD ARISE OR WORSEN IN THE ABSENCE OF TIMELY ACTIONS. WE ALSO NOTE THAT THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY RECOGNIZED THE OVERRIDING IMPORTANCE OF INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION AND IMPROVED FOOD DISTRIBUTION, PARTICULARLY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AS THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR OF THE FUNDAMENTAL SOLUTION TO THE WORLD FOOD PROBLEM. WE ENDORSE THIS APPROACH. FINALLY, WE NOTE THAT THE COMMITTEE ENDORSED THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN WORLD FOOD SECURITY THROUGH, INTER-ALIA, MORE EFFECTIVE FOOD STOCK POLICIES, AND TO ESTABLISH AN IMPROVED EARLY WARNING AND INFORMATION SYSTEM ON FOOD AND THE CAUSES OF FOOD SHORTAGES, INCLUDING BETTER ARRANGEMENTS FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF AND FOOD AID. THESE ALSO SEEM APPROPRIATE. THESE ACCOMPLISHMENTS ARE NOTED IN PARAGRAPHS 14 AND 15 OF DOCUMENT E/5533.

TURNING NOW TO THE SPECIFIC ISSUES REQUIRING ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AT THIS TIME, ENUMERATED IN PARAGRAPH 1 OF DOCUMENT E/5533, MY DELEGATION HOPES THAT WE SHALL BE ABLE TO DISPOSE OF THEM BY CONSENSUS. THE DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE CONFERENCE, THE DRAFT PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE AND THE PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK HAVE BEEN LABORIOUSLY WORKED OUT IN THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE, AND I BELIEVE THAT THEY SHOULD BE APPROVED BY OUR BODY INTACT.

THE PROPOSAL TO CONVENE A THIRD MEETING OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE IN ROME FOR SEPTEMBER 23 TO OCTOBER 4 IS, IN OUR OPINION, ESSENTIAL. WE ALSO CONCUR IN THE PRO-

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 GENEVA 04795 251751Z

POSAL TO HOLD A MEETING IN ROME FROM SEPTEMBER 16 TO THE 29TH IN ORDER TO CONSIDER SPECIFIC PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY VARIOUS DELEGATIONS. THIS MEETING IS NECESSARY, IN OUR JUDGMENT, IN ORDER THAT THE THIRD SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE WILL BE ABLE TO COMPLETE ITS TASK OF MAKING THE NECESSARY PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN ROME THIS NOVEMBER. THANK YOU MR. PRESIDENT. UNQTEABRAMS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, FOOD ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974GENEVA04795
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740202-0324
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740719/aaaaapun.tel
Line Count: 161
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: GENEVA'S 4643.
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 AUG 2002 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <21 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECOSOC: PLENARY SESSION--ITEM 9-WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE
TAGS: EGEN, ECOSOC, UN, WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005